Funds for computer literacy in Arunachal Pradesh

1407. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the detail of funds allocated and released for computer literacy in rural and urban areas of Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for not utilizing the allotted funds by the State; and

(c) the effective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education has launched a revised Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) in 2001-2002 to promote computer literacy in schools in the country. Under the revised CLASS scheme, financial assistance is being provided to States/Union Territories on the basis of Computer Education Plans (CEPs) submitted by the States/UT's.

As the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has not submitted the Computer Education Plan of its State, no funds have been released to them.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

FDI in elementary education

1408. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating a new policy on foreign direct investment in the elementary education in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has set up an internal panel for a policy decision on this issue;

(c) whether any concrete proposal has been prepared by the Ministry in this regard;

(d) whether although a 100 per cent FDI is allowed in the education services through the automatic route, the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy have raised objections on this issue; and

(e) if so, what are the concrete steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) to (e) In matters relating to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the areas of pre-primary and elementary education, proposals are examined on case by case basis.

Misuse of Dowry Prohibition Act

†1409. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act are being misused;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to stop it; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) There is no information about misuse of the Dowry Prohibition Act in the country with the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rehabilitation of children

1410. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that children account for about 38 per cent of the total population;

(b) whether 53 per cent of children suffer from malnutrition and 3 per cent children work for wages; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.